

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF ›

CONTACT THE EDITOR ›

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE ›

[Lead story ›](#)


USITT Member Spotlight: Kristi Ross-Clausen

Q&A with Kristi Ross-Clausen, stage manager, safety consultant, and author of The Stagehand's Toolkit... [more »](#)



Glerum Rigging Masterclasses Launch in Denver

The Jay O. Glerum Rigging Masterclasses launched this summer with 60 attendees gathering in Denver for the two-day intensive... [more »](#)



Nominate a Young Designer or Technician for YD&T Awards

Nominations are open now through November 15 for USITT's 2017 Awards for Young Designers & Technicians in the Performing Arts... [more »](#)



LiNK 2016: Find the Perfect Grad School

Find a grad school that's right for you at LiNK 2016, Nov. 11-13 in Atlanta. Early registration is available until Sept. 30... [more »](#)



Student Chapter Applications Due

The deadline for Student Chapter applications is October 17, 2016. Submissions must be received by October 17 to be chartered for 2016-2017... [more »](#)



USITT's President: Really Behind the Scenes

Draw back the curtains and spread the word about the work that you do... [more »](#)



Spotlight on Giving: Seamus M. Bourne

USITT member Seamus Bourne on his reasons for supporting the Institute... [more »](#)



USITT's Executive Director: Why Be Part of USITT?

The new USITT working to make a stronger impact on our community with new opportunities for learning and creativity at all levels... [more »](#)



Light Lab Competition: Submissions to Open

Lighting design students: do you design for dance? do you want to compete and gain feedback from world-renowned lighting designers?... [more »](#)



Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

With registration October 3 and Conference planning in full swing, now is the time to get on board... [more »](#)

[Lead story ›](#)

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

[Next story ›](#)

News & Notices

Member Spotlight: Kristi Ross-Clausen

Kristi Ross-Clausen, Production Stage Manager at University of Wisconsin-Madison, safety consultant, and author of *The Stagehand's Toolkit*.

USITT: What was your first live theatre experience?

Kristi: I grew up in rural northern Wisconsin, so it was school and 4H. My high school didn't allow girls on the crew other than costumes/make-up and painting the set, so I performed. I didn't see my first professional show until I was in high school – a van and trailer version of *La Boheme* done in a school gym by six performers with piano accompaniment.

Ironically, I became a fan of professional theatre by watching the movie versions of *West Side Story*, *South Pacific*, *Oklahoma*, and *Sound of Music* on TV.

You went to college for music. How did that lead you to theatre tech?

I worked my way through Lawrence University as a recording engineer for the Conservatory's classical and jazz concerts. One summer, I worked at a camp as the A1 for its performing arts center which included the high school theatre performances. The guy running the spot light for the school shows taught me how to do that. When I returned to school that fall, I started working student-designed shows which led to overhire opportunities and an apprenticeship with IA local 470. Years later, the lighting guy from the summer camp was the department head on my first Broadway tour!

Please share your production background. How did you learn so many disciplines?

Read everything plus asked polite questions from smart people. My parents taught me cooking, sewing, electronics, hand drafting, carpentry, etc. which gave me a great foundation. Pappy Alderson (Mick Alderson's dad), told me the more



things I could do, the more opportunities I'd have to work IA gigs, so I do it all! I love the fact there is always something new to learn, and the biggest names in the business graciously share their knowledge. If I don't know the answer, I can look it up or call someone who probably does. Now I'm on the receiving end of those calls, too.

What led you to be a stage manager? What do you like about calling shows?

Becoming a stage manager was a natural progression into leadership. I've been blessed to be mentored by some excellent people including David Stewart and Tom Bartlett.

I like the satisfaction of calling a perfect show and enjoy the challenge of handling the unexpected.

You have worked on huge concerts for famous bands like the Eagles and Steely Dan, and on Broadway touring shows. Which do you prefer?

Broadway.

How did you get involved with USITT? Why do you support it?

USITT is the room where it happens for theatre tech. It's part business, part education, part extended family reunion, and all fun. Nothing else provides all those aspects in one place.

How did you end up teaching? Please describe your job at UW-Madison.

I taught K-12 choral/general music for years, just added IATSE Trained Trainer to my resume. After a one-year gig at the University of Wisconsin - Madison as production stage manager, I'm going back to K-12 teaching as technical theatre teacher at Nicolet High School in Glendale, WI.

What would you tell a student who asks what it takes to be a stage manager?

The same thing Pappy told me: the more you know, the more jobs you can take. People see the tangible of your show bible and hear you call it, but the real work is in supporting everyone involved in the production. Even if you're "only" a stage manager or "only" a lighting designer, knowing how the rest of the crew works makes you more valuable to everyone. The stage manager has to be like a duck -- cool and calm gliding along the surface while paddling madly underneath. Your ultimate boss is the audience member in the back row who just spent her last dollar to buy a ticket. If she's not happy, she won't come back and the company will eventually cease to exist. This is show business, and every business must pay the bills.

What is your favorite show you ever worked on?

Shows are like children – can't pick a favorite.

What's your bucket list show to call?

Paul Sanchez wrote a musical based on the book *Nine Lives* about New Orleans and Hurricane Katrina. The music is an amalgamation of every style you hear in New Orleans, and the story is an inspiring one of how real people persevere through overwhelming situations. My bucket list show is to call that on Broadway.

Suggest a USITT Member for the Spotlight!

If you know of USITT members whose work should be in the Spotlight, please feel free to suggest them. Contact Lynne Dundas at lynne@usitt.org.

[‹ Front page](#)

[Next story ›](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

[Tweet](#)

[0](#)

[Share](#)

[Next story ›](#)

News & Notices

Experienced and Novice Riggers Benefit from Glerum Masterclasses

The Jay Glerum Rigging Masterclasses launched this summer with 60 attendees gathering in Denver for the two-day intensive.

Created to honor the memory of Jay O. Glerum, USITT Fellow and the author of *Stage Rigging*, the Glerum Workshops included two tracks: one for advanced riggers, the other for entry level people.

The advanced rigging class was coordinated by Eric Rouse, along with Gareth Conner, Pete Svitavsky, Joe Champelli, and Paul Kelm. The 30 participants from 12 states explored the challenges of integrating rigging and automation. It was certified for ETCP renewal credits. Hosted at the Seawell Grand Ballroom at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, the event allowed attendees to dig into the complex relationship of rigging and automation, braking dynamics, and the math and physics of it all.

At the same time, across the street at Metropolitan State University, another 30 participants were led by Ed Leahy, Shane Kelly, and Patrick Finn through the rudiments of rigging for those with no rigging experience but needing to work with rigging. The target audience was high school educators, but attendees from all walks of entertainment careers joined in.

Safety issues were an important part of the classes with experienced riggers learning about brakes and the less experience learning about safety harnesses.

Sponsors ETC, H&H Specialties, JR Clancy, Texas Scenic, and the Green Machine Employees helped keep the cost to attendees affordable. The USITT Fellows Fund and the Glerum family, through the Glerum Family Travel



Stipend, helped some high school educators get to Denver.

The 2017 Jay O. Glerum Masterclasses are being planned with details announced shortly.

“I am honored to have received the grant that made my attendance possible. Without the grant, I would not have been able to make it to Denver and meet such a diverse and experienced group of individuals at this very educational and informative course.”

J. Glombicki, Concordia University, Chicago

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO
ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

[FRONT PAGE »](#)

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

[VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »](#)

[CONTACT THE EDITOR »](#)

[Search the Archives](#)

[GO](#)

[SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »](#)

[Tweet](#)

[0](#)

[Share](#)

[Next story ›](#)

News & Notices

Nominate a Young Designer or Technician for YD&T Awards

Nominations are [open now](#) through November 15 for USITT's 2017 Awards for Young Designers & Technicians in the Performing Arts.

USITT members may nominate a young designer or technician for any of the 14 awards in sound, costume, scene, make-up, lighting design; stage management; and scenic technology.

Nominees will be invited to submit their work to a panel of industry leaders who judge the awards. [Nominate here.](#)

Winners will receive a cash prize, formal recognition, and free registration to USITT's [2017 Annual Conference & Stage Expo](#) March 8-11 St. Louis, MO, where the awards are presented.

The awards are:

Graduate Awards

- [KM Fabrics, Inc. Technical Production Award](#)
- [Robert E. Cohen Sound Achievement Award](#)
- [Zelma H. Weisfeld Costume Design & Technology Award](#)
- [Bernhard R. Works, Frederick A. Buerki Scenic Technology Award](#)
- [Barbara Matera Award in Costume Making](#) sponsored by Judy Adamson
- [USITT Lighting Design Award](#) sponsored by Barbizon Lighting Company
- [USITT Scene Design Award](#) sponsored by Rose Brand



- USITT Makeup Design Award sponsored by Kryolan Professional Make-Up
- USITT Stage Management Award sponsored by Clear-Com Communications Systems

Undergraduate Awards

- Master Craftsmanship Award sponsored by Bernhard R. Works
- USITT Lighting Design Award sponsored by Barbizon Lighting Company
- USITT Makeup Design Award sponsored by Kryolan Professional Make-Up
- USITT Stage Management Award sponsored by Clear-Com Communications Systems
- USITT W. Oren Parker Undergraduate Scene Design Award sponsored by Stage Decoration & Supplies

For more information, [click here](#).

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

[FRONT PAGE »](#)

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

[VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »](#)

[CONTACT THE EDITOR »](#)

Search the Archives

[GO](#)

[SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »](#)

[Tweet](#)

[0](#)

[Share](#)

[Next story ›](#)

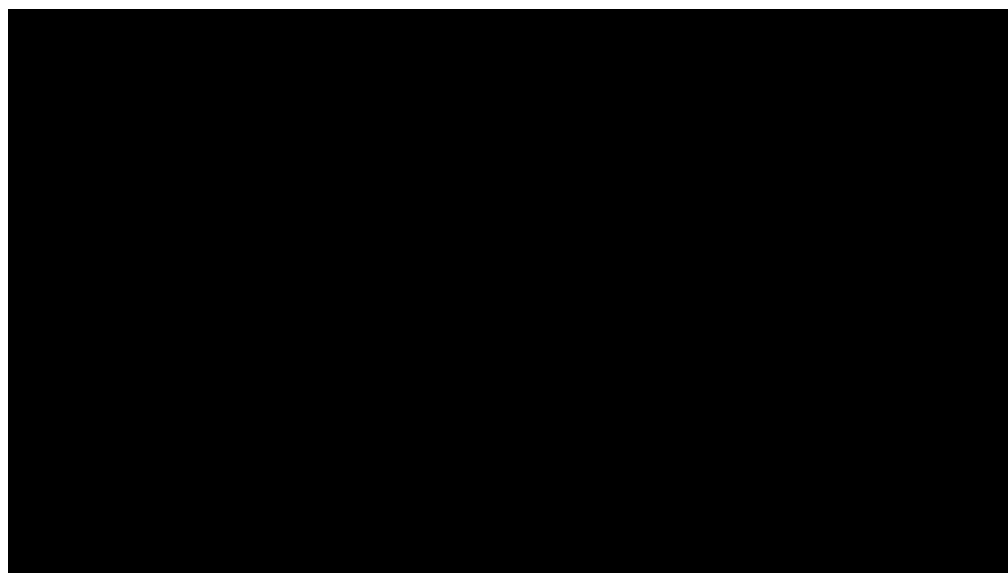
News & Notices

Find a Grad School That's Right for You at LiNK 2016

LiNK 2016 brings together more than 50 theatre graduate school programs with aspiring students for two days of interviews, auditions, portfolio reviews, and networking. It will take place Nov. 11-13 at the Crowne Plaza Atlanta-Airport.

Early Bird Registration for LiNK 2016 is available until Sept. 30 for just \$40 (less than the cost of one grad school application).

Take a look at highlights from last year's LiNK here:




[LiNK 2016 info and registration here.](#)

[‹ Previous story](#)

[Next story ›](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016
Print this page ›

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO
ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

[Tweet](#) 0 [Share](#)

Next story ›

News & Notices

Student Chapters: Applications due for 2016-2017

The deadline for Student Chapter applications is October 17, 2016. All current Student Chapters must fill out an application to be approved for 2016-2017.

USITT has changed the criteria for high school Student Chapter applications this year. In an effort to have more high school chapters involved, USITT has waived the minimum number of student members required. Starting this year, only the sponsor (faculty/staff member) needs to be a current USITT member to apply. College and University chapters still must have at least six current USITT Student members.

Guidelines and applications are available [here](#).

If you have questions about USITT Student Chapters, please [email Monica](#) or call 800-938-7488.

Previous story

Next story ›

Volume LVI, Number 9

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

[FRONT PAGE »](#)

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

[VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »](#)

[CONTACT THE EDITOR »](#)

Search the Archives

GO

[SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »](#)

[Tweet](#)

[0](#)

[Share](#)

[Next story ›](#)

News & Notices

Announcements

- **USITT:** Announcing eSET Council Leaders
- **USITT:** Gateway Program Seeks Nominations
- **USITT:** Sept. 15 Deadline for Board Mentor Program
- **USITT:** College2Career Preparing for Liftoff!
- **UC Irvine:** USITT Discount for Group Tour to India
- **In Memoriam:** Darwin Reid Payne

USITT: Announcing eSET Council Leaders

Recently appointed to the 2016-17 eSET Council are Kim Scott, Chair; Carolyn Satter; Darren Levin; Bob Scales; Beth Martell; and Tom Hackman.

President Mark Shanda said, "I am confident that, with Kim's leadership and this strong group of folks, continued progress on this important Institute initiative will continue."

USITT: Gateway Program Seeks Nominations

As of Sept. 1, members are able to submit nominations for USITT's Gateway Program.

For students and early career professionals from underrepresented groups in theatre production, 12 selected participants will pair up with professional mentors at USITT 2017 in St. Louis, MO.

Look for more information on Gateway and how to apply or volunteer to be a mentor at www.usitt.org/gateway.

USITT: Sept. 15 Deadline for Board Mentor Program

Young people from throughout the U.S. who want to learn about and experience what it is like to serve on a board of directors are encouraged to apply for the USITT Board Mentor Program through Sept. 15.

Those selected will receive support to attend USITT Board of Directors meetings

and participate as non-voting members in all discussions and committee work.
[Details and application here.](#)

Mentees begin their 15-month experience at USITT's spring Board Meeting held in conjunction with the Annual Conference. They receive orientation with incoming board members and then serve a one-year term beginning July 1 of that year.

USITT: College2Career Preparing for Liftoff!

Look for the launch issue of a new USITT newsletter to appear soon in your email in-box. The content will be geared primarily to college students and early career professionals and will complement Sightlines, which will continue as a monthly newsletter. We invite suggestions for story ideas, submissions, and feedback. For questions and submissions, contact [Lynne](#) or call the office at 800-938-7488.

UC Irvine: USITT Discount for Group Tour to India

USITT member and UC Irvine Costume Design Professor Holly Poe Durbin is organizing a group tour to India Dec. 11-13 with content geared toward USITT members' interests. The trip includes a pre-tour to Jaipur/Agra (Taj Mahal) and a main tour to Delhi, Kochi & Mumbai. Discounts are available to USITT members.
[Details available here.](#)

In Memoriam: Darwin Reid Payne

USITT regrets to inform members of the death of Darwin Reid Payne on July 30, 2016. He was 85. Mr. Payne had an extensive career as a scenic designer, author, and educator. In 2005, USITT held an exhibition of his work at the Annual Conference & Stage Expo, and awarded him with a Special Citation for his contributions to theatrical design and education. He is survived by his prolific work in design, oil paintings, bronze work, his love of gardening, and the memories of his students and colleagues.


[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016
[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

[Tweet](#) [0](#) [Share](#)

[Next story ›](#)

News Releases from

Our Industry Members

- **Rose Brand:** Introduces Melt Out Ceiling Fabric
- **Chauvet:** Educational Session Draws Church Technicians
- **Elation:** Releases ZCL Series of high-output LED effects with Zoom

Rose Brand: Introduces Melt Out Ceiling Fabric

Contributing member Rose Brand Inc. now offers "Melt Out" fabric, a more economical, fire safety, ceiling fabric used to diffuse light over trade show booths, displays and exhibits.

Chauvet: Educational Session Draws Church Technicians

Sustaining member Chauvet Professional co-sponsored an educational tech session with Church Production magazine at Tabernacle of Praise in Atlanta covering lighting, video and audio issues for churches, part of an ongoing series of seminars.

Elation: Releases ZCL Series of high-output LED effects with Zoom

Sustaining member Elation now offers ACL-type LED effect lights with zoom that enhances dynamic effect lighting for stages and night venues.

[Previous story](#) [Next story ›](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPOST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11**FRONT PAGE »****NEWS & NOTICES:**

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »**CONTACT THE EDITOR »****Search the Archives**

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »[Next story ›](#)

Transitions

- **USITT:** Martell Joins Phoenix Design Group
- **Millikin University:** Black Promoted to Director, School of Theatre and Dance
- **GLP:** Schulnig Named Head of Marketing

USITT: Martell Joins Phoenix Design Group

This summer, USITT Board Member Verda Beth Martell transitioned her technical direction, automation, and rigging skills to theatre consulting joining the innovative technology design group of Westlake Reed Leskosky (WRL).

WRL includes design specialists from a variety of industries not traditionally part of architecture design. Although based in the Phoenix office, Martell will work on projects around the world.



Previously, she spent 13 years on the technical direction staff and as assistant professor of theatre at the University of Illinois, the last three as the chair of scenic technology and technical director for Krannert Center.

Millikin University: Black Promoted to Director, School of Theatre and Dance

Mary Black was promoted to director of the School of Theatre and Dance at Millikin University where, for the past seven years, she has been a technical director, faculty member, and designer. In 2015, she was granted tenure and became an associate professor.

Black has been active in the Technical Production Commission of USITT, chairing or contributing to sessions at the National Conference every year since 2011, and serving as project leader for the Technical Production Fundamentals Group.



GLP: Schulnig Named Head of Marketing

Sustaining Member German Light Products recently welcomed Andrea Schulnig as the new head of marketing in Karlsbad, Germany.

www.germanlightproducts.com.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPOST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

Tweet

0

Share

[Next story ›](#)

News From **Mark Shanda**, *USITT President* **Really Behind The Scenes**

Mark Shanda *USITT President*

We like to hide what we do. In fact, we invest in elaborate systems of curtains and track, or skillfully placed architectural features to prevent the audience from seeing the lighting equipment in use, the motion control mechanics, the quick change booth, as well as hiding the crew that is working hard to assist in bringing the show to life in performance. Yet, there are times that all of our efforts to prevent folks from knowing what we are doing can backfire.



Our secret keeping can, at times, undermine our quest for appropriate levels of financial support to enable us to realize the best possible production. Theatres everywhere seem to struggle financially. Many approach production with just enough resources to "get by" and we designers and technicians often rise to the occasion by investing longer hours and through some amazing ingenuity actually pull off more than what seemed possible.

While I am a big fan of creativity, I am not very tolerant of working excessively long hours. To overcome our tendency to hide out, I would encourage all producers to occasionally draw back the curtains and let others in on both the challenges and the rewards of backstage work. The next time you integrate automation into a production, plan an open house demonstration for either target audiences like the physics faculty from your campus, or just a post show talk back that demonstrates the "how" of the special effects that you were able to integrate into your production.

Consider a pre-show audience conversation to give those who have made the effort to come to your production some insight into the research, design, and fabrication processes that have brought your project to life. In a production that has a quick change in the first act, seize a moment during intermission to demo the dressers at work. Take advantage of lobby wall space to feature displays that tell the story, not just of the production, but of the production process. Our collaborative artistry deserves to be on display beyond the results of the live performance and in multiple creative ways.

As more of our audiences understand the critical roles of the variety of production

personnel necessary to bring a show or project to life, the more likely we will find allies when we need to justify our resource requests. Using the power of knowledge could lead to greater advocacy for appropriate funding and support. While we want to continue to celebrate our ability to surprise and astonish, from time to time, let's spread the word about our many talents as designers and technicians to increase understanding.

Sharing your work with others in the industry is also a great way to help all further develop their skills. Events like *Cover the Walls*, the *Design Expo*, and the *Tech Expo* are all opportunities to spread the word about the work that you do. All of us have an obligation to advocate for the creative artistry that is live performance!

We'd like to hear your comments on this story.

Please e-mail Mark at Shanda.1@osu.edu.



[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

[FRONT PAGE »](#)

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

[VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »](#)
[CONTACT THE EDITOR »](#)

Search the Archives

GO

[SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »](#)
[Tweet](#)

0

[Share](#)
[Next story ›](#)

Spotlight on Giving

"I feel that I have benefited from USITT at all stages of my career; whether in high school as a budding technician who was just trying to soak in as much information as I could, to the professional designer & college professor who appreciates the professional development workshops and safety initiatives. The Institute serves all of us. I donated because I want it to continue to inspire the budding technicians of the future as it has many of us."

- Seamus M. Bourne, Scenic Designer and Clinical Assistant Professor, Berry College



Donors from June 14 to July 15, 2016:

Kook Fund

- Sandy Bonds
- Dennis Dorn
- Andi Lyons
- Sylvia Pannell
- Loren Schreiber
- Charles Williams

New Century Fund

- Seamus Bourne
- Elsbeth Collins
- Jerry Davis
- Tammy Honesty
- Andi Lyons

- Charles Williams

New Century Fund - Diversity

- Kasey Allee-Foreman
- Keri Fitch
- Rafael Jaen
- Michael Katz
- Andi Lyons
- Michael Mehler
- Linda Pisano – In Memory of Tayneshia Jefferson
- Juan Sanchez
- Vincent Laino
- Verda Beth Martell
- Wendy Rigs
- Sandy Bonds
- Jerry Davis
- Krystal Kennel
- Kevin Rigdon
- Loren Schreiber
- Doris E. Siegel

USITT Fund

- Rafael Jaen
- Andi Lyons
- Mark Shanda

General Operations

- William Browning
- Rosalie Contino
- Daniel Culhane
- Dennis Dorn
- Estate of Sara Nash Gates
- Emily Gill
- David Grindle
- Mickey Henry
- Michael Katz
- Carl Lefko
- Andi Lyons
- Karen Maness
- Martha Marking
- Leslie Marqua
-

- Sylvia Pannell
- Carolyn Satter
- MJ Sedlock
- Loren Schreiber
- Sherry Wagner-Henry
- Norma L. West – In Memory of F. Joseph Schulte
- Kimb Williamson

Fellows Fund

- Sandy Bonds
- Laura Crow
- Randy Earle – In Memory of Tom Watson
- Ted W. Jones – In Memory of Sarah Nash Gates
- LeRoy Stoner

Make a gift to USITT at www.usitt.org/giving.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

September 2016

Print this page ›

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

Tweet

0

Share

Next story ›

News From **David Grindle**, *USITT Executive Director*

Why be part of USITT?

David Grindle *Executive Director*

Possibly you've asked yourself that question. Possibly someone has asked you. Each member has a different answer.

For some it is because they go to the Conference, for others they love *TD&T* and the publications. There are even some who do it out of "habit."

Whatever your reason may be, the coming year holds many more, exciting reasons.

The Commissions and Board met in St. Louis in August and generated new ideas and opportunities for learning and creativity at all levels that will be rolling out over the coming months. It was exciting to see the number of new ideas Board Members came up with.

Learning is coming, both in person and online, so that you can get information without always having to travel. We are taking more and more steps towards bringing USITT closer to you every day of the year.

If you have access to the web, you have access to *TD&T* at www.usitt.org/tdtcurrent. If you login to usitt.org, active members can search the archive of all 50 years of *TD&T*. Every issue has been digitized and is searchable. While the archive had been available online, we invested in making it complete and searchable for members. I hope you'll check it out and use it. (Reading the first issue of *TD&T* is actually quite fun!)

The year will be a big one for USITT members. Our Conference in St. Louis has new hands-on opportunities for learning. The second Glerum Masterclasses in Rigging are soon to be announced. Costume Symposium will be a whole different opportunity thanks to the work of the Costume Commission leadership.

Membership in USITT is making an impact on individuals and our industry. You can be proud to state that you are part of an association that is investing in the present and the future while preserving the past. Your membership is key to both the financial and community support of the Institute's work.



Having members be part of the creation, participation, and support of the work of USITT show others that we are an active, vibrant organization that produces material used by the broad spectrum of our industry.

When you renew this year, you'll see a redesigned membership card. That was done to reflect the new USITT that is working to make a stronger impact on our community. I hope you proudly place your member window cling where it can be seen. And when someone asks you why you are a member, you can show them the resources available to you and the work being done. Have a great year.

[Previous story](#)

[Next story](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO
ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

[Next story ›](#)

News From Regional Sections

- **Upstate New York:** Fall Meeting Includes Free Workshops, Tours
- **New York Area:** Win a Free Conference Pass to USITT 2017!

Upstate New York: Fall Meeting Includes Free Workshops, Tours

The Upstate New York Regional Section will hold free workshops on rigging and costumes, and tours of the space and other theatres at SUNY Plattsburgh 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 10 at 101 Broad Street, Plattsburgh, NY. Find details [here](#) or contact [Erica Guay](#).

New York Area: Win a Free Conference Pass to USITT 2017!

The New York Area Regional Section is offering an opportunity to win a full Conference pass to USITT 2017 Conference and Stage Expo in St. Louis. To be eligible to win, you must submit a 1-2 page essay by Sept. 30. [Details here](#) or [contact John McCullough](#)

[‹ Previous story](#)

[Next story ›](#)

Volume LVI, Number 9



Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO
ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

GO

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

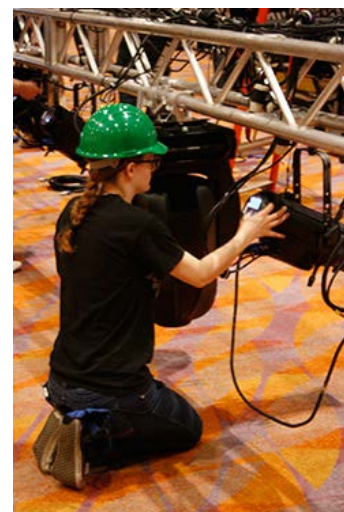
[Next story ›](#)

Lighting Commission

Submissions to Open for Light Lab Competition

Lighting design students: Do you design for dance? Do you want to compete and gain feedback from world-renowned lighting designers?

Light Lab at USITT 2017 will hold a competition for graduate and undergraduate students who have experience lighting dance performances. The application window for graduate students is Sept. 11 to Oct. 30; for undergraduates, it is Sept. 23 to Nov. 13. Three graduate and three undergraduate applicants will be selected by the Lighting Commission to create quick designs at the Light Lab. For more information, please contact Jonathan Allender-Zivic, session chair, at jallenderzivic@gmail.com.



[‹ Previous story](#)

[Next story ›](#)

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

[VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »](#)

[CONTACT THE EDITOR »](#)

Search the Archives

[GO](#)

[SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »](#)

[Front page ›](#)

Conference & Stage Expo

Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

Are you on board for St. Louis?

With registration opening October 3 and Conference planning in full swing, now is the time to get on board with the many Conference opportunities your membership offers.

Gateway, Young Designers & Technicians Awards, the Stage Management Mentor Project, Tech Expo, Light Lab, and other programs offer ways to grow and be recognized.

Look for USITT 2017 information at usittshow.com.



[‹ Previous story](#)

[Front page ›](#)

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

[GO](#)

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

For the Record:

Leadership

USITT Leadership

- Mark Shanda, *President*
- Jimmie Byrd, *Secretary*
- Daniel Culhane, *Treasurer*
- Carolyn Satter, *Vice-President for Commissions*
- Michael Mehler, *Vice-President for Communications*
- Jack Feivou, *Vice-President for Conferences*
- Kevin Rigdon, *Vice-President for International Activities*
- Kasey Allee-Foreman, *Vice-President for Education & Training*
- Andi Lyons, *Vice-President for Members, Sections & Chapters*
- Eric Rouse, *Vice-President for Exhibitions*

Directors

2014-2017

- Mickey Henry
- Rafael Jaen
- Shane Kelly
- Karen Maness
- Michael McNamara
- Vickie Scott

2015-2018

- Tammy Honesty
- Jenny Kenyon
- Verda Beth Martell
- Linda Pisano
- Loren Schreiber
- Paul Vincent

2016-2019

- Paul Brunner
-

- Carey Hanson
- Kim Scott
- Tina Shackleford
- David Stewart
- Jim Streeter

Board Mentee 2016-2017

- Tyler Hixson

Sightlines Editorial Staff & National Office Staff

- **David Grindle**, Executive Director
- **Carol Carrigan**, Director of Finance & Human Resources
- **Lynne Dundas**, Director of Marketing & Public Relations
- **Monica L. Merritt**, Director of Member Services
- **Gabrielle Chiddy**, Marketing Strategist
- **Lori Furcinito**, Finance Assistant
- **Mallory Kay Nelson**, Membership & Education Assistant
- **Jim Lucas**, Member Support & Advertising Coordinator
- **Ron Procopio**, Stage Expo Sales & Operations Manager
- **Christine Troscher**, Education & Training Coordinator

Volume LVI, Number 9



© United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Inc.

usitt

Sightlines

The monthly newsletter for USITT members

September 2016

[Print this page ›](#)

USITT 2017
CONFERENCE
& STAGE EXPO

ST. LOUIS
MARCH 8-11

FRONT PAGE »

NEWS & NOTICES:

- Member Spotlight
- Glerum Masterclass Recap
- YD&T Awards Seek Nominations
- Video: LiNK 2016
- Student Chapter Applications Due
- Announcements

NEWS FROM:

- Industry Members
- Transitions
- USITT's President
- Spotlight on Giving
- USITT's Executive Director
- Regional Sections

COMMISSIONS:

- Lighting Commission: Light Lab Competition

CONFERENCE & STAGE EXPO:

- Last Word: Let Your Creativity Soar!

FOR THE RECORD:

- Leadership
- Contributing Members
- Sustaining Members

VIEW ISSUE AS A PDF »

CONTACT THE EDITOR »

Search the Archives

[GO](#)

SIGHTLINES ARCHIVE »

For the Record:

Members

USITT gratefully recognizes the individuals and businesses in these special categories of membership:

- [Contributing Members »](#)
- [Sustaining Members »](#)

Contributing Members

- Apollo Design Technology, Inc.
- Automatic Devices Company/ADC Powdercoating
- Barbizon Lighting Company
- University of California
- Cirque du Soleil
- City Theatrical, Inc.
- J.R. Clancy, Inc.
- Creative Conners, Inc.
- Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- d&b audiotechnik
- Disney Parks Creative Entertainment
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- Feld Entertainment
- Foy Invention Enterprises, Inc.
- Future Light
- Gantom Lighting & Controls
- H & H Specialties Inc.
- Hall Associates Flying Effects
- Harlequin Floors
- InterAmerica Stage, Inc.
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees
- KM Fabrics, Inc.
-

- Kryolan Corporation
- The Light Source
- MDG Fog Generators
- Mega Systems
- Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc.
- Musson Theatrical, Inc.
- Norcostco, Inc.
- Oasis Stage Werks
- Philips Group
- Prince George's Community College
- PRG
- Production Advantage, Inc.
- Rosco Laboratories, Inc.
- Rose Brand Theatrical Fabrics, Fabrications & Supplies
- SECOA
- StageRight Corporation
- StageSpot
- Staging Concepts
- Steeldeck Inc.
- Sustainable Technologies Group
- Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
- TAIT
- Texas Scenic Company
- TheatreWorld Backdrops
- Vincent Lighting Systems
- Wenger Corporation
- Yale School of Drama/Repertory Theatre
- ZFX , Inc. – Flying Effects

Sustaining Members

- A.C. Lighting Inc.
- A.C.T. Lighting
- Acme Corp. Production Resource
- The University of Alabama
- Alcons Audio USA
- Atlanta Rigging Systems
- Auerbach Pollock Friedlander
- A V Pro, Inc.

- Baby Lock
- Backdrops Beautiful
- Batts Audio, Video and Lighting
- BellaTEX, Inc.
- Ben Nye Makeup
- Bernina of America
- BMI Supply
- University of California — Irvine
- California Institute of the Arts
- Center Theatre Group
- University of Central Arkansas
- Chauvet
- Chicago Flyhouse Inc.
- University of Cincinnati
- Clear-Com Communication Systems
- Clearwing Productions
- Cobalt Studios
- Columbus McKinnon Corp.
- Dallas Stage Scenery, Inc.
- Dazian Fabrics, LLC
- Diablo Sound
- Doug Fleenor Design, Inc.
- EK Lights
- Elation Lighting
- Emerson College
- Entertainment Lighting Services
- ENTTEC Americas, LLC
- Fanshawe College
- Florida State University
- Focal Press/Routledge
- GALA Systems, Inc.
- GLP German Lighting Products, Inc.
- Gerriets International Inc.
- Grand Stage Company, Inc.
- Heatshrink.com
- Herbert L. Camburn Associates
- IALD-International Association of Lighting Designers
-

- InLight Gobos
- iWeiss Theatrical Solutions
- JLG Industries, Inc.
- Johnson Systems Inc.
- Kenmark, Inc.
- Kirkegaard Associates
- L-ACOUSTICS
- Lectronsonics, Inc.
- LEE Filters
- Lehigh Electric Products Co.
- Leprecon
- Leviton/NSI/Colortran
- Lex Products Corp.
- Limelight Productions, Inc.
- Lite-Trol Service Company, Inc.
- Little Giant Ladder Systems
- Live! Technologies
- Lycian Stage Lighting
- The MAGNUM Companies Ltd.
- Mainstage Theatrical Supply
- Mehron, Inc.
- Michigan Technological University
- University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
- University of Missouri-Kansas City
- Mongol Global Tour Company, Inc.
- Morpheus Lights
- Niscon Inc.
- University of North Carolina School of the Arts
- Northern Sound & Light, Inc.
- Nova Lume
- OSRAM SYLVANIA
- Pathway Connectivity
- Penn State University
- Period Corsets
- Peter Albrecht Company
- Pointwright Entertainment Rigging Specialists
- PreSonus Audio
-

- Princess Cruises
- Rational Acoustics, LLC
- RC4 Wireless/Soundsculpture Inc.
- Rockford University
- Saginaw Valley State University
- Sapsis Rigging Entertainment Services, Inc.
- Sculptural Arts Coating, Inc.
- Serapid, Inc.
- Show Sage
- Smooth-On, Inc.
- Stage Decoration & Supplies, Inc.
- Stage Equipment and Lighting, Inc.
- Stage Rigging Services, Inc.
- Stagecraft Industries, Inc.
- Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas
- StageLight, Inc.
- Stagemaker
- Studio Gear
- SUNY Oswego Theatre Department
- Techni-Lux, Inc.
- Theatre Consultants Collaborative, LLC
- Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.
- Thern Stage Equipment
- Tiffin Scenic Studios, Inc.
- TMB
- Turning Star Inc.
- Ultratec Special Effects Inc.
- Union Connector Co., Inc.
- United Scenic Artists Local 829
- USHIO America, Inc.
- Vectorworks
- University of Virginia
- XS Lighting, LLC

As of 7/11/2016

Commercial Endorsement Policy: USITT is pleased to announce the release of new products, and report on the activities and successes of commercial members. However, USITT does not recommend or endorse specific companies